THE TECH

VOL. XXIX. NO. 155. BOSTON, MASS., THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1910 PRICE ONE CENT

COLUMBUS OHIO SEWAGE DISPOSAL PLANT

John H. Gregory 1895 Engineer In Charge Gives Talk Before C. E. Society

The Civil Engineering Society held an interesting meeting yesterday afternoon in Room 6 Lowell. Mr. John H. Gregory, a graduate of the Institute in the class of 1895, Course I. and a very high authority in sanitary engineering, was the speaker, and took as his subject the Sewage Disposal of the City of Columbus, Ohio, this being the lecture he gave last evening before the Boston Society of Civil Engineers. Mr. Gregory was in charge of the entire design and construction of both the water supply system and sewage disposal plant, which latter is by far the largest and most elaborate system in the United States.

Columbus is a city of about 200,000 inhabitants and is situated at the intersecton of two streams which have very small flow in summer droughts, but rise to large proportions in time of spring freshets. Prior to the installation of these new improvements the conditions were very poor. The water supply was from ground water sources, but in the summer, water was pumped directly from the river, taking at some seasons the whole yield of the river. Then the sewage was pumped into the river just below the town where it stood for long periods of time in stagnant pools causing a grave nuisance. Frequent typhoid fever epidemics occurred, the most notable beng in January and February, 1904.

Beginning in 1898 commissions were appointed at different times to investithe matter and suggest improvements but all the suggestions were rejected.

In November, 1903, the final commission was appointed which for a year made very thorough investigations on a practical scale and finally designed the system which has been adopted and which consists of septic tank treatment followed by sprinkling filters and settling basins.

Two pumping stations were built to elevate the sewage to the proper height to be used on the filters. In the larger one of these, located near the filters, there are five centrifugal pumps which lift the sewage against a head of twenty-five feet. As the separate system of carriage is used, only the sanitary sewage is pumped to the beds, the rain water run-off being discharged directly into the river.

From the pumping station the sewage goes directly to the septic tanks which are six in number. Only three of these are generally in use at one time. The flow is regulated by sluice gates in a large conduit placed inside the north wall of the tanks. Four of these gates open into each of the four primary tanks. From the primary tanks, the sewage passes into the secondary, two in number, through a collecting and distributing wall separating them. Then from the secondary tanks they flow over a baffle wall and below a scum board to the filters.

The septic tanks are all constructed of concrete, are twelve feet deep and of such capacity that any particle of the 8,000,000 gallons which are discharged daily, will take eight and one-half hours to pass through, thus giving ample time for the deposition of a large quantity of sludge. Very little scum accumulates on the surface of the liquid, and this is all held back by the scum boards which are constructed of wood and rise and fall automatically with the height of the water.

HARD JOLT GIVEN MOVEMENT FOR HONOR SYSTEM AT TECHNOLOGY

Resolution Disapproving Adoption Of System By Overwhelming Majority

A severe jolt was handed to the advocates of the honor system at the Institute yesterday when by practically a unanimous vote the 450 students present at the mass meeting in Huntington Hall passed a resolution voicing their disapproval of the introduction of the system here.

As typical of many recent Tech affairs the meeting started thirteen minutes late. R. F. Goodwin, Jr., 1910, president of the senior class, presided. Ralph J. Haley 1910, a graduate of Princeton University, now pursuing advance courses at the Institute started the ball rolling.

Mr. Haley began by tracing the career of the system at Princeton, where it has been in vogue since 1894. So successful has the system been at this institution that but two cases have been brought to light in the entire sixteen years of existence of the system.

At Princeton each entering student is made to feel at his first examination that he is a compliment of the large system, and the system becomes virtually a part of the college itself. Through the governing board the freshman is made thoroughly acquainted with the system so that when the first freshman examinations take place, the student has become thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the system and is ready to work entirely on his honor.

Membership on this governing board is composed of the presidents of the senior, junior and sophomore classes, and two additional members of the senior class elected by the first three named. The duties of this board are two fold, viz: to try cases of suspected cheating, and to familiarize all new students with the workings of the system.

Under the system as exercised at Princeton a pledge must be signed by each student at the end of each examination, signifying that he has neither given nor received aid during the progress of the examination. By this document the man pledges his word of honor that he has not cheated in any way, thus reducing the presence of cheating to a minimum.

Upon entering the university the average student becomes afraid of the consequences of dishonest behavior in examination rooms, as portrayed to him by members of the governing board and other upper classmen. This feeling of fear, however, gives way to one of pride when the man attains his upper years, and from then on the man feels it his duty to impress other new men with the principles and working of the system.

In closing Mr. Haley suggested that as an introduction to the general adoption of the system at the Institute, it might be tried in the two upper classes, this experiment to be followed by its general adoption if the experiment proved successful. This speech was received with considerable applause.

The next speaker in favor of the system was Mr. Brewster, an Amherst College man, now studying at Harvard Law School. As in the case of the first speaker, Mr. Brewster prefaced his remarks with a discussion of the application of the system at the institution which he represented. He stated that the system had been in vogue at the latter institution for but four years, its adoption being the result of a long campaign, similar to the one now being carried on at the Institute.

Under the system as in practice at Amherst, faculty surveillance is at an end after the exam is "set"; that is, after the papers are distributed and general questions answered. In the estimation of the speaker the only advantage of the pledge was inhibitory, exercising as it does a restraining influence on the student.

The governing board at Amherst is chosen from the two upper classes, with the president of the senior class as chairman. The duties of the board are practically coincident with those of the Princeton board, but at Amherst there is a rule that the informer must personally consult with the offended before reporting a case.

The question of the moral issue was next introduced by the speaker. As generally understood at Amherst the function of the student body is to support the faculty, and the object of the system is not for the students to "run" themselves alone, but to work in hearty co-operation with the faculty.

As the system works at Amherst, guilty upper class men are expelled, while similar offences perpetrated by lower class men result in suspension. In all the cases at Amherst, however, the guilty men have returned to college and by their subsequent honesty succeeded in living down their original disgrace.

The speaker next read a letter from the editor-in-chief of The Amherst Student, in which the writer emphasized the fact that the system is now considered a part of the institution itself.

W. C. West 1911, a member of the committee of investigation recently appointed by the Institute Committee, was the next speaker in favor of the adoption of the system. He traced the general development of the system, showing its origin in Southern institutions, and its subsequent adoption in several Northern institutions.

The speaker presented extracts from a letter written by a prominent professor at Stevens Institute of Technology, in which the writer commended

(Continued on page 2.)

ANNOUNCEMENT.

In as much as there has been expressed considerable dissatisfaction with the result of yesterday's honor system mass meeting on the part of those who favored the system, it is only fair that they receive a little attention. Therefore, while the matter is still uppermost in everybody's mind it is well to bring it to a satisfactory as well as conclusive head.

To do this, The Tech will publish every day this week an honor system ballot. Send in one signed, indicating yes or no and leave in one of The Tech boxes or Institute mail boxes before 4 P. M. Saturday.

If for any reason you can not get The Tech ballot use a piece of paper indicating in full the required information, viz.:—vote, name, course and year.

M. A. H. S. DINNER OFFICERS ELECTED

Successful Banquet Addressed By Head Masters Last Night

Last night in the small dining room of the Union, the Mechanics Arts High School Club held its annual dinner and election of officers. In addition to the regular members of the club, there were present twelve high school seniors, making a total of forty at th dinner.

The election of officers for the coming year resulted as follows: President, H. O. Maxwell 1912; vice-president, H. M. Rand 1913; secretary-treasurer, A. J. Pastene 1913; senior representative of executive committee, P. A. Cushman 1911.

The speakers of the evening were Dr. Charles W. Parmenter, Head Master of the Mechanics Arts High School, Prof. William B. Carpenter, the Junior Master, and our own Dean Burton.

C. E. BANQUET

Particularly Interesting Speakers On The Program

The annual banquet of the Civil Engineering Society will take place this evening at 6.30 at the American House on Hanover Street. A very attractive program has been provided for the evening. Among the speakers are Mr. Lucius Tuttle, President of the B. & M. R. R., Albert F. Bemis, President of the Alumni, Mr. Homer Albers, lecturer in Business Law, and Professor Spofford. The Tech orchestra will be on hand to furnish the musical part of the program.

Cambridge, May 5.—Halley's comet is being charged, among a multitude of other things, with responsibility for the prolonged rainy, cloudy and cold weather, but the officials at Harvard observatory say they cannot see how the comet could effect the weather on this planet in any way, as it is too far away.

The bad weather is not abnormal, according to the Harvard observers, and of no more moment than the extraordinary spell of good weather in March. Owing to the succession of cloudy nights, the observers at Harvard have been unable to get any photographs of the comet since the first ones taken.

CALENDAR.

Wednesday, May 4.

1.30—Mass Meeting, ... Hall.
4.15—C. E. Society, 6 Lowell.

Thursday, May 5.

6.30—C. E. Society Banquet—American House.
8.00—Chemical Society, 6. Lowell.

Friday, May 6.

3.00—1913 M. A. H. S. Baseball, Tech Field.
6.30 P. M.—New York State Club, dinner and election of officers, Lombardy Inn.

Saturday, May 7.

2.00 Tech-Wesleyan Meet, Middletown.
12.00—1912, Dean Baseball, Meet in Union.

THE TECH

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BOSTON, MASS., MAY 5, 1910.

This year has ben on of marked success for the Civil Engineering Society as far as the number of meetings and attendance at these meetings are concerned. But now at the closing event of the year, the Annual Banquet, it is a discouraging fact that comparatively few men have signified their intention of being present. This is particularly noticeable among the class of 1912; those to whom it is of particular advantage to be present—it being the only time of the year when these men can meet socially with other members of the society.

The officers have provided a particularly attractive program for the evening with such well-known men as Mr. Bemis, president of the Alumni, Mr. Munroe, secretary of the Corporation, and Mr. Tuttle, president of the B. & M. R. R., as speakers. Moreover, half of the cost of the dinner is being paid from the treasury of the society—the tickets selling at one dollar instead of two which the hotel charges.

But it is not too late even now—the dinner takes place this evening at 6.30.

Inasmuch as the matter of the honor system is still under discussion, no further editorial opposition to the system will be made in these columns until Monday next.

On the other hand communications on both sides will be welcomed in order that there may be no doubt about the fair treatment of the system.

Brooklyn, N. Y., May 5.—The battleship Florida, that will be launched May 12 at Brooklyn Navy Yard, is the largest battleship in the United States Navy. President Taft is expected to outline an important naval programme in his address for that event.

New Haven, May 5.—"Spike" Seymour, Yale's star sprinter, has been lost to the game. He sprained a tendon while training and Coach John Mack says that he has no hope of Seymour being able to start again this season.

HARD JOLT GIVEN

(Continued from page 1.)

in highest terms the working of the system at the latter institution. So successful has the system become at Stevens that the student governing board even goes so far as to make recommendations to the faculty relative to candidates for a degree.

The speaker cited other examples of Southern institutions where the system flourished, and closed by reporting officially for the committee, that the latter body recommends the adoption for the system for the two upper classes alone for the present.

The enthusiastic reception accorded these three speakers would appear to indicate the sanction of the meeting for the movement. The unanimity of the meet was, however, rudely jolted by the next speaker, who forcefully presented a number of strong arguments against the adoption of the system at the Institute.

This first speaker in opposition was John M. Bierer, a graduate of Washington and Lee University, and now a graduate student at the Institute. In opening the speaker advanced two main reasons why the honor system has failed in its purpose in the South, despite its accredited popularity. These reasons are: first, that it gives a much greater chance for the man who will cheat in any case to get his degree; and second, the basis upon which the whole system stands or falls, by which a student will report friends and foes alike, has no firm foundation.

Elaborating upon the first argument advanced the speaker stated that if students at the Institute would be amazed were they to know the great prevalence of cheating at schools and colleges where the system is in vogue. He further warned the meeting against receiving the informal reports issued by the various college heads without a grain of salt. It would be very poor policy for a school or college head to decry such a student governing system if it were already in vogue at the institution in question.

Under the second argument he showed the meeting how difficult it is to make friends tell on friends. This, he said, was the weak link in the chain, and was damaging evidence against the system. For these two reasons, if for no other, he disapproved heartily of the adoption of such a system at the Institute.

The final speaker in opposition was R. H. Ranger 1911, whose argument was along the same lines as that of the previous speaker. He could see no advantage gained by students being able to go out and smoke during examinations and "add nickels to Metcalf's till."

At the conclusion of his speech Ranger moved that "the student body express their disapproval of the introduction of the honor system at the Institution.

The motion was adopted by an overwhelming majority and the meeting adjourned at 2.25.

Boston, May 5.—As the members of the Yale 'Varsity four-oared crew which had been matched to race Volkmann school Saturday on the Charles river have been taken to the 'varsity squad, the race with the Back Bay school has been called off.

Washington, May 5.—After 12 years the battleship Maine is to be removed from Havana harbor and the bodies which went down with the vessel will be interred in the National Cemetery at Arlington. A bill providing for such removal and burial, which had pased the House, was yesterday passed in the Senate.

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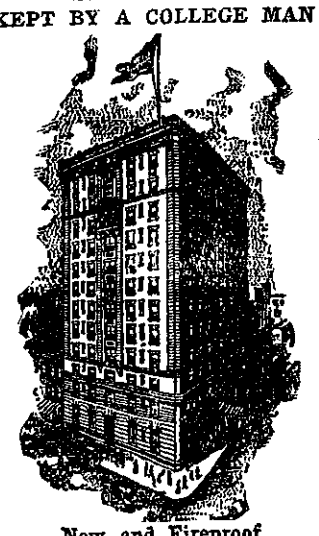

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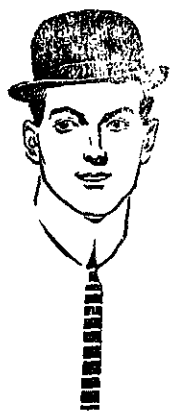

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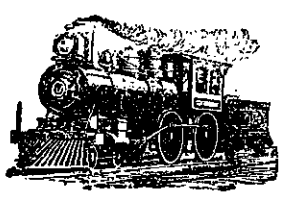

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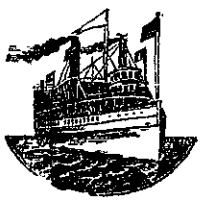

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COLUMBUS OHIO SEWAGE

(Continued from page 1.)

The filters are built in triangular form, four in number, and radiating from a central gate house. They are constructed of ten inches of coarse stone covered by about four feet of smaller stone averaging from one and one-half to three inches in diameter. Each filter has an area of two and a half acres or ten acres in all. Distributing pipes lead out from the central gate house upon which spray nozzles are attached which spray the sewage fairly evenly over the beds. There are 2100 of these jets in all. Underneath the beds are placed collecting mains which bring the effluent back to the gate house ready for further treatment.

The beds operate at an average rate of 2,000,000 gallons per acre per day, but as only one-half are in use at any one time the actual rate is double this quantity. They have given great satisfaction, not showing any tendency to clog.

The final step in the process is passing the effluent through settling basins, where nearly all of the remaining sludge is removed. These are of concrete four and a half feet deep and the sewage takes three hours to pass through.

Th method of removing the sludge is rather unique. At the time of freshets, when the river is very high, the sludge is cleaned out of the tanks and basins and pumped directly into the river causing no nuisance at this time.

The cost of the entire plant including the pumping stations and sewer extensions was about $1,300,000. The final effluent obtained is not entirely clear but is non-putrescible and causes no nuisance. The suspended matter is reduced from 200 parts per million in the raw sewage to 36 in the effient or 82 per cent. purification. Also the bacteria are reduced from 2.40 to 0.56 million per c. c. which is entirely satisfactory as the stream is not used for drinking purposes at any point below.

GENERAL NEWS

TELEGRAPH NEWS OF THE MORNING.

Forecast for Boston and Vicinity.—Fair Thursday, moderate north to northeast winds.

Still damp and chilly. There are cold spots yet in the north. Fog in the early morning and a temperature of 50 or under.

Boston, May 5.—Mayor Fitzgerald today denounced the school board's action last night in over-riding his veto of the appropriation of $529,557 for new schools and charged the school board with being the most extravagant in the world aad the most expensive that Boston has ever had.

That the city has an incomplete school system and that numerous half-finished products are being turned out of the schools annually, is the mayor's contention.

Provincetown, May 5.—With her bow high in the air and her after compartments full of water, the freight S. S. Santurce staggered into this harbor, at dawn after a perilous night off the end of Cape Cod, following her being rammed last evening by the oil tank S. S. Ligonier.

Skillful seamanship and a plucky engine crew saved the Santurce from going to the bottom, but her commander Capt. Folker, had no soft words for 17 deckhands who, like rats from a sinking ship, scurried over the sides of their vessel to the Ligonier, while te latter's bow was grinding the side of the Santurce.

The collision took place off Cape Cod light about 3 a. m., in the midst of a dense fog. The Santurce had discharged a heavy cargo of sugar in Boston and was jogging along round the Cape for New York.

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ELEMENTS OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING 653—COURSE II.

The regular Friday lecture will be held this week instead of the recitations, as previously announced.

HARRISON W. SMITH.

ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING SOCIETY.

The Annual Banquet of the Society will be held this year at the American House on the 5th of May at 6.30 P. M. The speakers will be Prof. Spofford, Pres. Lucius Tuttle, Mr. A. F. Bemis, president of the Alumni, Mr. James P. Munroe, secretary of the Alumni, and Mr. Wheelwright.

Tickets should be procured at once from men in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year rooms. Price $1.00 for members, $1.50 for non-members.

FOR SALE.—One of the first Techniques 1889. Also copies from 1889 to 1910. 1889 sells for $3.00, all others at $1.00 each. Box 65, The Cage.

LOST.—In Freshman Drawing Room, Rogers Building or on Boylston St., between Rogers and Berkeley St., gold watch. Finder notify C. G. F., Cage.

FOR SALE—Two 17-foot canoes for sale, in the best of condition. See Frazier or Fitzherbert, in The Tech office.

LOST—April 27 K & E 10-inch Slide Rule, 6-inch Starrett scale in case. Name on rule and outside. Reward for return.

M. J. TURNBULL, 215 Newbury St.

BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY Smoker has been postponed from Thursday, May 5, to next week. Date to be announced later.

Regular meeting of the Chemical Society on Thursday, May 5, at 8 P. M. Address by Dr. Warren K. Lewis on the "Chemistry of Tanning." Tickets, 25 cents. Business will include nomination of officers foir next year.

R. W. LEWIS, Secretary.

LECTURE BY MR. BARNABY.

Lecture will be given by Mr. Sidney W. Barnaby at 4.00 P. M. in Room 11 Engineering Building B on the 10th, 12th, 16th, 18th and 20th, to students of the Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering. Students of other Departments are also cordially invited to attend.

C. H. PEABODY.

COURSE ISSUES

The Tech is considering having sets of the Course issues bound. The price will of course bepend on the number. If those who would desire such a volume would signify such desire by leaving a note to that effect in one of The Tech boxes, matters would be greatly facilitated.

It is understood that this note would is no wise bind the writer provided the price was considered too high.

The pages have been numbered consecutively in each issue so that they will go together very well in bound form; and so arranged, they would be a source of information on the various courses from a personal standpoint that is no where else to be found.

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